

Application No.: 10/692,468  
Non-Final Office Action mailed December 17, 2010  
AMENDMENT dated June 17, 2011

**REMARKS**

As an initial matter, Applicants respectfully note that the instant Office Action should be non-final, as confirmed telephonically by the Examiner on January 11, 2011 and by the Supervisory Examiner on June 17, 2011.

In addition, Applicants would like to thank the Examiner and the Supervisory Patent Examiner for their consideration during the telephonic interview held on April 13, 2011 and in subsequent communications. Applicants note with appreciation that the Examiner indicated that the rejection of claims 1, 33 and 42 under 35 U.S.C. §112(¶1) would be removed in view of the support in FIGS. 1-5. Applicants' undersigned representative also spoke telephonically with the Supervisory Patent Examiner regarding the patentability of the claims over the art of record. The Supervisory Examiner indicated that independent claims 1 and 42 as amended would put those claims and their dependents in condition for allowance.

Upon entry of the instant amendment, claims 1, 3, 21-27, 31, 42, 44-48 and 52-54 are pending in the above-identified application. Independent claims 1 and 42 are currently amended and claims 4, 11-20, 29, 30, 33-41, 43 and 49-51 are newly canceled. Accordingly, Applicants believe that currently amended independent claims 1 and 42, as well as claims 3, 21-27, 31, 44-48 and 52-54 which depend cognately therefrom, are allowable over the relied upon art. Accordingly, reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 3, 21-27, 31, 42, 44-48 and 52-54 are respectfully requested.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required with respect to this communication, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 06-1135.

Respectfully submitted,

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